

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /152 W

----- 078938

R 251115Z NOV 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 654

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMMBASSY BEIRUT 336

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IZ

SUBJECT: KURDISH-COMMUNIST TRUCE

REF: BAGHDAD 621 AND 623

1. KURDISH-COMMUNIST COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED NOV 22 GAVE NO INSIGHT INTO CAUSES OF RECENT CLASHES. IT SAID KDP DEL HEADED BY MULLAH MUSTAFA BARZANI AND ICP DEL HEADED BY AZIZ MOHAMMAD MET NOV 19-20 AND AGREED THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF MARCH MANIFESTO AND KURDISH AUTONOMY AND COMPLETION OF PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT REQUIRE COMBINED EFFORTS OF BAATH, KDP AND ICP. BOTH SIDES RECONIZED THAT RECENT EVENTS WERE HARMFUL AND AGREED TO MEET REGULARLY TO DEVELOP FUTURE RELATIONSHIP AND ELIMINATE CAUSES.

2. ON NOV 23 COMMUNIST TARIQ ASH-SHAAB ADDED DISCORDANT NOTE BY DEMANDING RELEASE OF "HUNDREDS" OF FOLLOWERS WHO HAD BEEN "DETAINED OR KIDNAPPED" BY KURDS. IT ALSO PUBLISHED ARTICLE EVINCING STRONG SKEPTICISM THAT KDP WOULD ABIDE BY AGREEMENT.

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3. COMMENT: I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY HARD INFO ON RECENT CLASHES. BEST GUESS IN BAGHDAD IS THAT GOI ARMED COMMUNISTS TO WEAKEN KURDS AND THAT SULAIMANIYA PROVINCE CHOSEN BECAUSE COMMUNISTS ELEMENTS AND DETRIBALIZED KURDS LOYAL TO KDP RATHER THAN BARZANI ARE NUMERICALLY STRONG. NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT SUGGEST BARZANI AND KDP REACTED QUICKLY AND VIOLENTLY TO DISARM COMMUNISTS.

4. ICP-KDP TRUCE IS ANOTHER IN LONG SERIES OF SUCH ACCORDS OVER PAST 12 YEARS AND THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE IT OTHER THAN TEMPORARY. GOI AND BAATH CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC SILENCE ON THESE EVENTS.
LOWRIE

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